FALL 2000

SAN FRANCISCO

CINEMATHEQUE

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Charette Communication Design Abigail Child

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Christopher Delaney
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Suzanne Girot
Annelise Goldberg
Stephen Gong
Brian Gordon
Nick Hewitt
Louis Hock
Brenda Hutchinson

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Taka limura
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Lawrence Jordan
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Edith Kramer
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Andy Moore
Brian Moriarty
Margaret Morse
John Muse

Margaret Morse John Muse Bill Nichols Michael Palmer and Cathy Simon Philip A. Perkins

Tom Polta
Alan Rath
Adriana Rosas-Walsh
Jay Rosenblatt
Henry S. Rosenthal

Julia Segrove-Jaurigui and Paul Gershater

David Sherman James Sidel in Memory of Gene Royce Gail Silva Michael Snow Elisabeth Subrin Alva Svoboda Lidia Szajko Arthur Tashiro Scott and Shelly Taylor Mark Tompkins Mary Tsiongas and Jim Roeber Kathleen Tyner Jack Walsh Philip Weisman Linda Williams

Michael Wilson

Richard Winchell

Steve Seid

Fred Worden
Charles and Helene Wright
Jud Yalkut

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For membership information, call our office at 415/822-2885

New Address

Please make checks payable to San Francisco Cinematheque.

San Francisco Cinematheque, PO Box 880338 San Francisco, CA 94188-0338

won't you join us...

10000

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Julia Segrove-Jaurigui
Mary Tsiongas
Kathleen Tyner
Richard Winchell

Director

Steve Anker

Steve Polta

Irina Leimbacher

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CINEMATHEQUE ON-LINE AND ON E-MAIL

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Highlights

SOUNDS OF ALL KINDS: FROM DADA TO NOW • NEW BAY AREA FILMS • ABIGAIL CHILD RETROSPECTIVE • 'GLIMPSES OF STORIES THAT REFUSE TO BE TOLD': NEW WORK BY WOMEN of the ART INSTITUTE of CHICAGO • MIRANDA JULY IN PERFORMANCE • RECENT WORK FROM AUSTRIA • THERESA HAK KYUNG CHA'S INSTALLATION EXILÉE • PETER ADAIR'S THE HOLY GHOST PEOPLE • AN HOMAGE to SIDNEY PETERSON • GUNVOR NELSON IN PERSON with NEW WORK • FILMS BY ZOE BELOFF, GREGG BIERMANN, JEREMY COLEMAN, VICTOR FACCINTO, PETER HUTTON, MARK LAPORE, TRACEY MacCULLION, KONRAD STEINER AND TIMOLEON WIKINS

FALL At a Glance

2000

September

24 Sounds of All Kinds

October

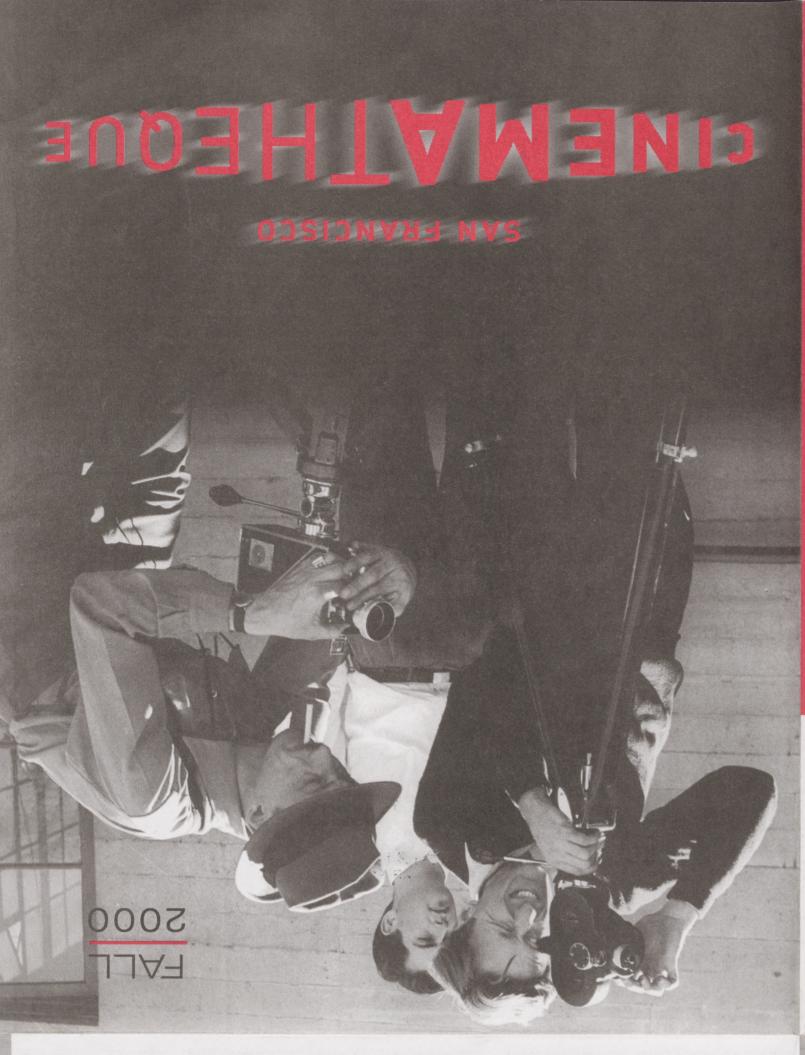
- Open Air Screening/ Party
- OS New Bay Area Films & Reception
- Video by Rodney Ascher
- 12 Below the New and others by Abigail Child
- Game and others by A. Child
- SURFACE NOISE and others by A. Child
- Theresa Hak Kyung Cha's Fxilee
- 26 Women of the Art Institute of Chicago
- James Renning's Fl Valley Centro

November

- 2 Tree—Line and others by Gunvor Nelson
- Video and Performance by Gregg Biermann and Ron Mazurek.
- 9 Films by Timoleon Wilkins and Jeremy Coleman
- 10 Miranda July's The Swan Tool
- 11 Kenneth Anger Presentation & Open House Party
- 12 Homage to Sidney Peterson
- 16 New Films from Austria
- 19 Zoe Beloff's Shadow Land and early spiritualist films
- 20 Rady Parts and others by Victor Faccinto

December

- O3 Poetry and Films by Konrad Steiner and others
- Peter Adair's The Holy Ghost People
- 10 Dovzhenko's Arsenai
- 15 Gash and others by Tracey MacCullion
- 17 New Landscape Films by Peter Hutton and Mark LaPore



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Film Forum

Margaret Fisher Diana Fuller Ernie Gehr Iranshid Ghadimi Jessica Gidal Suzanne Girot Annelise Goldberg Stephen Gong Brian Gordon Nick Hewitt Louis Hock Brenda Hutchinson Taka limura Karen Folger Jacobs Steve Jenkins Lawrence Jordan Lynn Kirby Diane Kitchen Vivian Kleiman Larry Kless Barbara Klutinis

Jane Koegel

Steven Kotz Edith Kramer Kerry Laitala Saul Levine Julie Mackaman Barbara McBane Scott McDonald Marina McDougall Duncan McNaughton Andy Moore Brian Moriarty Margaret Morse John Muse Bill Nichols Philip A. Perkins

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Open Air Screening/ Party October

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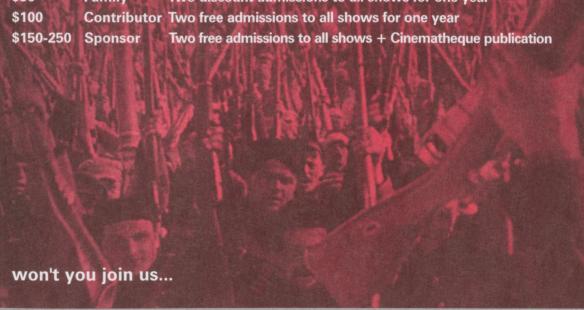
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Membership Categories and Benefits

\$25 Individual Discount admission to all shows for one year \$50 Two discount admissions to all shows for one year Family Contributor Two free admissions to all shows for one year



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Artistic Co-Director Irina Leimbacher

Office Manager Steve Polta

Board of Directors Kerri Condron Julia Segrove-Jaurigui

Technicians Kara Herold

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Sunday Sept 24 at 8pm San Francisco Art Institute Sounds of All Kinds: From Dada to Now Curated and Presented by Charles Boone Co-Presented with Acustica International SF 2000 and the SF Art Institute

Tonight's program, part of a two-week celebration of Sound Art throughout the Bay Area, offers a dazzling array of mixed media performances. Dadaists invented "simultaneous poems," one of which will be included in tonight's works. Painter Wassily Kandinsky's Klänge/ Sounds uses poetic texts dealing directly and indirectly with sounds of all kinds. Collagist Kurt Schwitters pioneered performance-text crossover in his *Ursonata*. Gertrude Stein tweaked her readers' ears with Completed Portrait of Picasso. Charles Amirkhanian presents the first local performance of his

sonic city exploration, Son of Metropolis San Francisco. Abigail Child's film, Mercy, features sound and image elements in equally powerful combination Computer-performer Laetitia Sonami's Conversation with a Light Bulb is as much visual and choreographic as musical. (C. Boone)

Sunday Oct 1 at 8pm San Francisco Art Institute Rooftop Screening/Barbecue at SFAI Curated and Presented by Michael Rosas-Walsh

This show will not be a bore. It can't be, it's atop the roof of the San Francisco Art Institute Lecture Hall. Cinematheque proudly presents this film event under the stars. There will be some classics by Robert Nelson, George Kuchar, Rock Ross, Dean Snider, Michael Rudnick and Toney Merritt, some of which were filmed on the roof where your behinds will be sitting. The rest of the program will be a celebration of new works by such artists as: Portia Cobb, Diane Kitchen, Rock Ross, Marian Wallace, Matt McCormick, William Z. Richard, Diane Frisbee, George Andrews, and more. There will be a beer and wine reception following the event. Bring your blanket and enjoy live entertainment under the moonlight before and after the program. And yes, you can smoke on the roof. (M. Rosas-Walsh)

Thursday Oct 5 at 7:30pm Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Center for the Arts Season Opener: New Film & Video by Local Makers and Long-Time Friends

Join S. F. Cinematheque staff for a kick-off screening/reception inaugurating our seventh season of continuous programming at Yerba Buena Gardens Center for the Arts, featuring an exciting array of new non-narrative (i.e. not based on traditional story-telling) film, video, digital projection and performance by mostly local artists. Confirmed titles as of press time include Three Interludes for hand-cranked 35mm projection by silt; An Alchemical Christmas Carol by the Scratch Film Junkies, produced by Thad Povey; interval Oakland 99 by Steve Polta; Focal Length, a film performance by Luis Recoder; Homecomings by Irina Leimbacher; Off The Track by Lynn Kirby; Une fois habitée (Once Inhabited) by Sandra Davis; and others to be announced.

Sunday Oct 8 at 7:30pm San Francisco Art Institute Reanimator: The Videos of Rodney Ascher Rodney Ascher In Person

Applying energetic montage techniques and a strong graphic sensibility to materials freely appropriated from popular culture, San Francisco video artist Rodney Ascher creates playful and perverse pieces in a variety of genres. While flirting with the conventions of commercial production, these works consistently apply an appreciative irony towards their subjects. To be screened: the sock-puppet prison drama The True Story of Crime: X Equals X (co-made with Syd Garron); Somebody Goofed (also with Garron), a brilliant interpretation of Jack T. Chick's apocalyptic re comic-strip series; a new installment in his ongoing documentary The Collectors and others. Ascher will also present a personal selection of related works, including Eric Kistel's Thank God Tommy Made It Out

Thursday, Saturday & Sunday Oct. 12, 14, & 15 Yerba Buena Center for the Arts and Artists' Television Access

Motives for Mayhem:

The Kinetic World of Abigail Child Abigail Child In Person

Co-presented by ATA's Other Cinema

With the release of her video Below The New: A Russian Chronicle and film SURFACE NOISE, Abigail Child confirms her position as one of the leading avant-garde filmmakers of this generation. A practicing theorist and poet as well as film and video maker, Child has re-defined montage in particularly contemporary terms, drawing on and extending the work of such past masters as Vertov, Eisenstein, Conner, and Lye. Her seven-part rapid-fire exploration of sound and image Is This What You Were Born For? remains one of the cornerstone achievements in independent cinema of the past twenty years. Child will be on hand to present a three-evening overview of her work from the past twenty-nine years. Programs 1 and 2 foreground the interplay between Child's formal experimentation and her background in (and return to) documentary issues. (S. Anker)

•Thursday Oct 12 at 7:30pm Yerba Buena Center for the Arts : Peripeteia I (1977) and II (1978); Ornamentals (1979); Prefaces (1981); Shiver (1991); Below The New: A Russian Chronicle (1999)

•Saturday Oct 14 at 8:30pm Artists Television Access, 992 Valencia St. Program 2: Game (1972); Mutiny (1982); B/Side (1996)

•Sunday Oct 15 at 7:30pm Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Program 3: Perils (1986); Covert Action (1984); Mayhem (1987); Mercy (1989); SURFACE NOISE (2000)

left to right:

Life/Expectancy MICHELE FLEMING Mr. Frenhofer and the Minotaur Sidney Peterson photo: Wm. R.Heick Tree-Line GUNVOR NELSON ASTRIA SUPARAK photo: NELL BRADY

Sunday Oct 22 at 7:30pm and 9:00pm San Francisco Art Institute Theresa Hak Kyung Cha's Exilée

An Installation for Super-8mm, Video & Sound Made possible through the assistance of the Berkeley Art Museum

The late Korean-born Theresa Hak Kyung Cha's body of film, video and installation has only recently begun to be appreciated. Cha's delicate and profound installation *Exilée* (50 min.), which will be presented twice tonight, was featured in CCAC's Searchlight exhibition last fall, and will be included in a major retrospective of her work at the Berkeley Art Museum. (S. Anker) "A meditative, lyrical exploration of time, Exilée draws on the distinguishing characteristics of its two mediums, Super-8mm film and video. In the differences between the rhythm of the editing, the scale of the images, the quality and sources of the light, as well as the relationship between image and sound, Cha's recurring concern with the theme of displacement emerges." (Kathy Geritz)

Thursday Oct 26 at 7:30pm Yerba Buena Center for the Arts "Glimpses of Stories That Refuse to Be Told": New Work by Women of the Chicago Art Institute Amie Siegel, Sarah Jane Lapp and Jenny Perlin In Person

Tonight we present three visually stunning and formally audacious films made by women who studied or teach at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Siegel's The Sleepers hauntingly orchestrates a series of voyeuristic glimpses into the windows of a Chicago night; Lapp and Perlin's Happy Are the Happy combines anecdotes told by a variety of people living in Prague, including refugees from ex-Yugoslavia and concentration camp survivors. Part meditation on a woman's midlife search for meaning, part essay on and experiment in cinematic form, Michele Fleming's Life/Expectancy creates a rich visual and conceptual tapestry of autobiography. Provocative and seductive, each of these films gives us, in Fleming's words, a "glimpse of stories that refuse to be told." (I. Leimbacher)

Sunday Oct 29 at 7:30pm San Francisco Art Institute James Benning's El Valley Centro James Benning In Person

For more than twenty years, James Benning has been making films of the American landscape which combine elegant formal compositions and structures with subtle political and social critique. His latest, *El Valley* Centro, presents a portrait of California's agricultural Central Valley through thirty-five two-and-a-half-minute views, each coupled with synchronous audio tracks but devoid of overt commentary. Seeming random at first, these elements accumulate meaning and take on organization as the film progresses, ultimately presenting this strangely quiet yet highly industrialized landscape as a complex nexus of social, political, and environmental forces. El Valley Centro is the first of a two-part series. Benning will return to present the second part, Greater Los Angeles, this Winter. (S. Polta)

Thursday Nov 2 at 7:30pm Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Tree—Line and Others by Gunvor Nelson Gunvor Nelson In Person

Tonight we welcome the great Swedish-American filmmaker Gunvor Nelson back to SF Cinematheque for the first time since 1995 with her new digital video, Tree-Line, "a minimalistic video, a kind of repetitious stammering with complex variations in rhyme and locomotion." (G. Nelson) Also included will be screenings of Nelson's richly evocative and haunting film tapestries Light Years Expanding (1987), Field Study #2 (1988), Time Being (1991) and Old Digs (1992). (S. Anker)

Sunday Nov 5 at 7:30pm San Francisco Art Institute Very Hard Work You're Asking Me To Do: The Cinema of Gregg Biermann Gregg Biermann and Ron Mazurek In Person

New York/New Jersey film and video artist Gregg Biermann presents film, video, and real-time music video as performed live by electronic composer Ron Mazurek. "Attempts to reconcile representational and abstract images and structure, Biermann's films and videos teeter on the friendly chasm betwixt the lyrical and the structural." (Brian Frye) Conventionally projected works to be shown include: The Hobgoblin of Little Minds (1999), Dissonances (2000), Detached Americans (1993) and Window of Appearances (1996). Real-time video performances Piano Etude and Into Whiteness blur the line between cine-recording and musical performance. Video sequences are triggered by a digital electronic keyboard played by Mazurek. In this way "edits" are created and montage is improvised in the course of the live performance. (G. Biermann)

Thursday Nov 9 at 7:30pm Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Just Get Me Out Of Here: New Films By Timoleon Wilkins and Jeremy Coleman Jeremy Coleman and Timoleon Wilkins In Person

From mystical desert landscapes to neo-real Korean city scenes, these short poetic works by two San Francisco-based filmmakers create a world of warmth and clarity where vibrant hues contrast with silky pastels in a common exploration of unfamiliar territory. Tonight's program includes two San Francisco premieres: Coleman's Hankook Trilogy, an interpretive cine-graph of South Korean society, and Wilkins' Chinatown Sketch, a sensuous layered diary of street life in San Francisco's Chinatown District. Also included: Coleman's hand-painted I, Zupt 49 and Ecclesiastic Vibrance, and Wilkins' metaphorical desert study Lake of the Spirits and others to be announced. (J. Coleman and T. Wilkins)

Friday Nov 10 at 9:00pm San Francisco Art Institute

Some Kind of Loving Tour: All Night Long with Miranda July and Astria Suparak Miranda July and Astria Suparak In Person, assisted by Mitsu Hadeishi

With her widely shown single-channel video, Nest of Tens, featured in this year's Rotterdam Film Festival, and performance work, Love Diamond, recently presented at the Kitchen and New York Video Festival, performance/video artist Miranda July makes her first Cinematheque appearance with excerpts from her latest multi-media work, The Swan Tool Combining performance, live music, and projected video with direct image manipulation, The Swan Tool is a "live movie" starring July as Lisa Cobb, a technician who is waiting to die, fall in love, or win the lottery. Parallel to and below this is a second movie, starring a hairy non-human form discovered by a picnicking family. These two movies evolve slowly and eventually collide, instigating, ultimately, a breakdown between audience and performance. The Swan Tool will be preceded by a presentation by New York curator Astria Suparak of Some Kind of Loving, the latest in July's Big Miss Moviola compilation video series which features work by Peggy Ahwesh, Stephanie Barber, Jennifer Reeder, and others. (S. Polta)

Saturday Nov 11 Noon-5:00pm

Building 116, Hunter's Point Naval Shipyard (at the end of Innes) Open House Party

Save the date for the San Francisco Cinematheque Open House, Saturday November 11, 2000, Noon to 5 pm. Come and celebrate with us as we showcase our new office and preview space in picturesque Hunter's Point Naval Shipyard (Building 116). Potluck Barbecue outside and films in our new preview screening room. Call our new office number, 822-2885, for more details and directions. See you there!

Saturday Nov 11 at 8pm San Francisco Art Institute

Kenneth Anger, Visionary Reception, Screening and Award Presentation

Kenneth Anger In Person A presentation of the Film Arts Foundation and Bay Area Video Coalition in collaboration with San Francisco Cinematheque and the San Francisco Art Institute. Sponsored by the San Francisco Foundation

Kenneth Anger, the legendary filmmaker of *Fireworks* and *Scorpio* Risiing will recieve the 2000 James D. Phelan Lifetime Acheivmen Award in film (along with an artist in video still to be named). Seating for this event is extremely limited. Cinematheque members may reserve seats (limit two per member) by calling 415-822-2885 by 5pm, November 6.

Sunday Nov 12 at 7:30pm San Francisco Art Institute An Homage to Sidney Peterson

The death of artist, writer, and filmmaker Sidney Peterson on April 24 at age 94 marked, in the words of Amos Vogel, "the end of an era." During the late 1940's, Peterson helped usher in the vibrant movement of San Francisco avant-garde filmmaking which continues to this day, while also establishing the teaching of personal filmmaking within a fine-art context for the first time anywhere. The four darkly surreal and witty films Peterson co-produced with his "Workshop 20" students at the California School of Fine Arts between 1947 and 1949— The

Cage, The Petrified Dog, Mr. Frenhofer and the Minotaur and The Lead Shoes - will be shown during this, his 95th Birthday week, in honor of his memory. (S. Anker)

Thursday Nov 16 at 7:30pm Yerba Buena Center for the Arts From *Tito-Material* to *Andy Hardy*: Recent Films from Austria

Tonight's program includes a wide range of recent films from the Austrian avant-garde, including two in 35mm. Using lost and found footage, home movies, and meticulously photographed images, the works are political, personal and structural. Works screened include: Elke Groen's rephotographed Tito-Material; Lisl Ponger's playful critique of travel movies déjà vu; Kathrin Resetarits' look at deafness Egypt; Peter Tscherkassky's playful Outer Space; Gustav Deutsch's trenchant Mariage Blanc; Thomas Steiner's lovely Pan; Martin Arnold's tour-de-force Alone. Life Wastes Andy Hardy; and Siegfried Fruhauf's La Sortie. (I. Leimbacher)

Sunday Nov 19 at 7:30 San Francisco Art Institute

Zoe Beloff's Shadow Land or Light From the Other Side Stereoscopic 16mm Film, Spirit Photographs & Early Cinema Zoe Beloff In Person

"My on-going project is an investigation into the relationship between imagination and moving image technology. Shadow Land..., a stereoscopic 16mm film, is based on the 1897 autobiography of Elizabeth d'Espérance, a materializing medium who could produce full-body apparitions. It shows how one might think of a medium as a kind of 'mental projector' and the phantoms as representations of her psychic reality. While 20th century cinema can be described as a 'window onto another world', the 19th century conceived of specters that could cross over into our own world. Hence my decision to photograph with a stereo camera. I will screen the film in conjunction with source material that inspired it, including several rare turn-of-the-century spiritualist films, and slides of spirit photographs from 1870-1915." (Z. Beloff)

Thursday Nov 30 at 8pm New Nothing Cinema, 6 Sherman St. Body Parts: A Multi-Screen Performance

by Victor Faccinto Victor Faccinto In Person Co-presented by New Nothing Cinema

Victor Faccinto will be on-hand at the New Nothing to present Body Parts and Fast Reel, two performances from a series he has been developing the past 6 years, which interweave live manipulations of up to 16 simultaneous 16mm film projectors into visually dense experiences. "Unlike painting and sculpture, which may be viewed at any time, or film and video, which may be pre-screened and re-viewed, this is a unique media which may only exist while it is being performed." (V. Faccinto) Faccinto will also show a selection of his earlier animation films, including Shameless and others.

Sunday Dec 3 at 7:30pm San Francisco Art Institute

Between Visions: An Intermedia Commentary Lyn Hejinian, Leslie Scalapino, and Konrad Steiner In Person

Lyn Hejinian and Leslie Scalapino will read selections from their collaborative poem Sight. "We agreed that the form of our collaboration was to be in doubles ... and that the subject, being sight, should involve things actually seen." (LS) This book-length work "argues that the moment of coming to see is active and dialogic." (LH) Each will then read work responding to Peter Hutton's lusciously photographed New York Portrait: Chapter II. Two other films shown will also address the interplay between cinema and language; Konrad Steiner's Bum Series, filmed and edited to a reading from Scalapino's poem Way and The Maltese Cross Movement by Keewatin Dewdney, the Canadian computer scientist whose brilliant wit plays on the intermittence that sustains language, cinema and passion. (K. Steiner)

Thursday Dec 7 at 7:30pm Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Peter Adair's The Holy Ghost People with Pie Fight '69 Christian Bruno and Sam Green In Person

An artful fusion of ethnography and cinema verité, late filmmaker Peter Adair's (Word Is Out) vibrant first film, The Holy Ghost People, received critical acclaim upon its release in 1967, winning that year's "New Visions" award in the SF International Film Festival. Adair's mesmerizing film portrays the mysterious and electrifying presence of the Holy Ghost as it swells through a West Virginian congregation over the course of an evening prayer meeting. Christian Bruno and Sam Green's Pie Fight '69 uses original footage and first-hand reminiscences to recount the hilarious Opening Night of the SF International Film Festival two years later when Adair's SF film collective, Grand Central Station, made a guerilla assault on the bourgeois film world. (C. Bruno)

Sunday Dec 10 at 7:30pm San Francisco Art Institute Alexander Dovzhenko's Arsenal

Ukrainian Alexander Dovzhenko was part of a group of Soviet filmmakers during the 1920s (also including Kuleshov, Eisenstein, Pudovkin, and Vertov) whose theory and practice radically transformed the language of narrative cinema. Dovzhenko was also throughout his life a practicing poet, and his films, whose subjects range from ancient folk myths to post-Revolutionary history, are imbued with a remarkable hallucinatory visual quality and a deep feeling for the physical and emotional character of Soviet life. Tonight is the first in a series surveying this early pioneer's greatest achievements. Arsenal (1929) is a powerful account of the Ukraine from World War I through the February and October revolutions which climaxes with the suppression of a worker's revolt in 1918. (S. Anker)

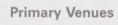
Friday Dec 15 at 8pm Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Gash and Others by Tracey MacCullion

Co-presented by Center for the Arts as part of Teensploitation!

Tonight marks the first Bay Area appearance of Tracey MacCullion with her film Gash, "A relentless, highly-charged punk trance film, Gash depicts the feral, traumatized psychic landscape of a young girl caught between her grotesquely abusive family and the out-of-control, sexually aggressive crowd she hangs out with on the streets of Boston. This raw plunge into regressive abjection has the shattering, uncanny power of a living nightmare and the ferocity of a fight to the death and puts filmmaker MacCullion on the map as one of the most exciting young talents around." (Ocularis) Also band-new films by William Jones, Xan Price, Daniel Hartlaub, Giulia Frati and Nick Zedd. (Curated by Center for the Arts Curator Film and Video Joel Shepard)

Sunday Dec 17 at 7:30pm Yerba Buena Center for the Arts The Personal Landscape: New Films by Peter Hutton and Mark LaPore

Our finale for 2000 includes two new films by old friends which premiered at this Fall's New York Film Festival. Peter Hutton's Time and Tide: Study of a River, Part 2 (2000), notable as Hutton's first extended foray into color, continues this filmmaker's lifelong study of natural rhythms as encountered and articulated through the dual frames of film and camera. Mark LaPore's The Glass System (2000), shot primarily in Calcutta, as well as in New York City, "looks at life as it is played out in public. Every street corner turned reveals activities both simple and mesmerizing... (M. LaPore and Laura McPhee) Also: Jeanne Liotta's beautiful and lyrical Muktikara (1999). (S. Anker)



800 Chestnut Street

San Francisco Art Institute Yerba Buena Center for the Arts 701 Mission Street (at 3rd Street)



top left: top right: Arsenal ALEXANDER DOVZHENKO

cover: SYDNEY PETERSON FILMING Mr. Frenhofer and the Minotaur photo: Wm. R. HEICK highlights: Body Parts VICTOR FACCINTO membership: Arsenal ALEXANDER DOVZHENKO

